

SUMMARY.

OF K. 18 COMING.

THE CAMPERS ARE CALLING.

During a dense fog in St. George's Channel on Sunday the steamers *Arcturion* and *Arcturion* collided.

The *Arcturion* was bound from Manchester for Durban and Australia. The *Arcturion* sank in three minutes.

Of her crew of 22, twelve persons perished. The rest were rescued, and the ship was towed down with the ship.

The *Arcturion*—300 passengers—received a crushing blow forward, and commenced to sink. She was safely beached.

There was no panic aboard the *Arcturion*. Her No. 1 hold was flooded.

In an address at Reading the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that colonials were watching the Budget with great interest.

Colonials, declared Mr. Lloyd-George, were thoroughly alarmed of the Lords for declining to pay up like men.

Mr. A. Lytton (Conservative) declares that the policy of the Government is to entomb the House of Lords in a mausoleum.

Several Ministers in their speeches have hinted at a preference for the return of the House of Lords from within.

"As far as Great Britain is concerned trade and employment are now improving so greatly that it is not necessary to resort to any extraordinary measures," said Mr. Lloyd-George.

Mr. John Burns is making an unprecedentedly strenuous fight.

He will visit every house in the business constituency before polling day.

A struggle by throwing some sand damaged a number of canvassing cards in Mr. John Burns's constituency.

The first test match between England and South Africa was started at Johannesburg on Saturday.

South Africa scored 206 in the first innings. England made 147 for the loss of 10 wickets.

The eight hours system in Northumberland collieries has evolved some dissatisfaction in regard to the shift system.

Ten thousand people are idle in Northumberland, and 6000 in Durham.

According to Reuters's correspondent at Port Arthur, a riot on an early date has been a free commercial port of entry.

The American Federation of Labour appeals to 1,500,000 members to subscribe to a fund to fight the United Fruit Company.

A typhoid epidemic is raging at Montreal. The hospitals are overcrowded.

The immigrants into Canada from the United States in 1909 numbered 92,048, and from Europe 30,522.

The late Dr. Ludwig Mond, the eminent chemist, left large bequests for scientific research, charities, and promotion of arts.

Ruatt, of Germany, and Clark, of Australia, won a six days' team cycle race at Berlin, covering 237 miles.

Mr. Spencer Trask, a New York banker, was killed in a railway collision at Croton, near New York.

Cotton for Liverpool, January and February delivery, is quoted 3.25d.

A terrible tragedy occurred at Tamworth yesterday, on the outskirts of the town.

A woman named Annie Power was murdered by her husband, who cut her throat.

Power then hanged his own throat about, and was taken to the hospital in a dying condition.

Flies, which arrived at Melbourne yesterday from South Africa, contain details of the search for the Waratah.

Wreckage was sighted only once. That was on October 4, when a piece of floating was observed floating in the water.

The weather was too rough to lower a boat. The piece of floating was covered with barbed wire.

South Australia yesterday scored 260 against Victoria. Clem Hill compiled 125, and Crawford 75.

The visitors led by 125 on the first innings.

The cricket match, N.S.W. v Queensland, is an interesting position.

With one wicket down, Queensland only needs 168 to win.

New South Wales yesterday scored 211. Minns made 180, and Harbour 124 not out.

A sensational shooting accident has occurred at Kulluparra (S.A.).

A farmer attempted to shoot his wife. He injured her seriously, and turned the revolver upon himself.

Lord Kitchener will be received at Federal Government House on Wednesday by his Excellency Lord Belper.

At midnight on Sunday the whole force of the Lytton (C) camp was turned out.

Lord Kitchener had said he would make a careful inspection. The position the troops had taken up was in difficult bush.

The idea on which the day's movements were based was that a fleet was attacking Brisbane.

A remarkable accident occurred in the Glasgow-Belfast cricket match at Dumfries yesterday.

The last ball of the over was driven straight back to the bowler, striking him on the forehead.

The ball went about 500 ft in the air, and was caught.

The apathy of the Newcastle district in regard to the strike is now even more pronounced.

Mr. Howling has been in Newcastle for some days, but last night he reached off to Sydney.

All families in the Clifton (South Coast) district have been placed under the state of immediate war.

The first shipment of 50,000 tons of coal ordered by the State Government is expected on the 12th inst.

Members of the Port Phillip Stevedores' Association did the loading on the B.M.S. *Morva* at Melbourne.

At Melbourne members of the Ward-Islanders' Union began the discharge of a consignment of coal from the steamer *Zamboni*.

It is rumored that 800 free labourers are to carry out the loading of coal at Bulli and Belconnen.

The latest report in connection with the Ascut Vale tragedy is that there is no possibility of Mrs. Clugston's recovery.

The recent rain ceased to exercise any appreciable effect on the water supply yesterday morning.

Prospect reservoir benefited to the extent of 1 ft 10 in, and Cataract dam 8 ft.

Last Sunday's rain at Broken Hill was not of much value to the mines generally.

The half-yearly report of the Mount Morgan Company shows that there has been a decrease in the gold contents of the sulphide ore.

The report further states that the gold contents of the oxidized ore show an increase.

The Acting Coroner recorded two open verdicts yesterday. Both inquests were on the bodies of men found drowned.

A fire broke out on Friday in the midst of standing wheat crops between Glen Taggart and Watervale.

A prisoner in Bursledon (W.A.) got out his throat with the sharp edge of a hoe cut.

The illegitimate birthrate in the metropolis for December was below the average of the previous five years.

A four-roomed waterboarded cottage at East Greta was destroyed by fire on Saturday night.

At the Druids' picnic at Pinky Bend (Vic.) yesterday a whole family became seriously ill from poisonous poisoning.

A little boy named Robinson was drowned at the same place.

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IN THE NORTH.

XV.

In comparison with early expectations the crop in the north, particularly about Tamworth, centre and along the north-western line, is disappointing. For a time everything pointed to a record yield, as the case in most parts of the wheat belt. The early weather was ideal, and the crops showed a splendid growth, the plants standing out well. But ultimately there was too much rain in the winter, and a dry summer followed. These conditions should be reversed for wheat-growing if record crops are to be gained. As a result the crop is not up to last year as far as averages go, which from this part was about the best in the State.

The sample is light, and probably the northern wheat will lose a little of the reputation made last season. That, however, will be only temporary, for the country is admirably adapted for successful wheat-growing. For that matter, this has been a very successful season, for, while not up to best hopes, the harvest has been a very good one, and farmers are well satisfied. While there are no record individual yields, as in other parts, there are plenty of paddocks going 30 bushels, but the general average will not be much more than 25 bushels. For that matter, it is not a Federation season, in fact, it is not a Federation season in the north, Bobs and Combacks having produced a better sample.

The wheat as a whole is inclined to weigh a little, a good deal under 50 lb. The weight is generally being much in line with that of the western country already dealt with in these columns. Some of the Federation, both about Tamworth and Manilla, got rather badly, although supposed to be immune. This only shows that it is a mistake to assume that any wheat will do well in all districts, and emphasises the value of the expert work being done by the Department of Agriculture in demonstrating which wheats are most suitable for different localities. In this respect it is pleasing to note that generally the invariable criterion is that of the results that poor results when they do not really be the most valuable work that can be done.

The best crops are about Werrin Creek and Carrabubilla, in the vicinity of about Boreas. There are good crops in the Gunnedah and Bogan districts, while there is a good comparative average, a good deal of the wheat is planted. Generally, however, the wheat is not so good as it was last year, owing to excessive moisture during the winter, while new land and sandy country has been well up to last year's average. There is a fair area of wheat in the north, and the wheat is not so good as it was last year, owing to excessive moisture during the winter, while new land and sandy country has been well up to last year's average.

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HE WON'T LAUGH TILL HE GETS IT!

I Love a Tonic—a Bonnie, Bonnie Tonic.



I LOVE A TONIC—A BONNIE, BONNIE TONIC, IT'S AS PURE AS THE LILY IN THE DELL, IT'S AS FRAGRANT AS THE BONNIE BLOOMING HEATHER, EXCELLENT IN ALL KINDS OF WEATHER.

"ALOK"

(UNINTOXICATING) CURES

INDIGESTION AND HEADACHE,

REGULATES THE

STOMACH AND LIVER.

UNINTOXICATING AND REFRESHING.

THE GREAT MORNING

PICK-ME-UP.

ALL HOTELS, WITH SODA-WATER, 6d PER GLASS; ALL CHEMISTS, 2/6 and 3/6 PER BOTTLE.

MANUFACTURED FROM THE CELEBRATED "KOLA NUTS" SOLELY BY FISHER AND COMPANY, Dispensing Chemists, 337 George-street, Sydney, OFF. G.P.O.

PUBLIC NOTICE—Alok as now Pharmaceutically prepared pours out a Rich Ruby colour, which in the future will be the STANDARD and only form in which this famous Tonic will be prepared.

ALWAYS WRITE FOR AND INSIST UPON BEING SERVED WITH "ALOK" (REGISTERED), THE ORIGINAL.

"TONIC."

GUARANTEED UNDER the "PURE FOOD ACT," 1908. (No. 25.)

WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTING AGENTS: TUCKER and CO., 216 CLARENCE-ST., SYDNEY.

STOCK MOVEMENTS.

TAMAR SPRINGS—Four thousand mixed sheep, Cox, owner.

THE RISLEY TEAM.

NEW SOUTH WALES PREPARING.

At the monthly meeting of the Council of the National Rifle Association last night, a letter from the secretary of the Commonwealth Council of Rifle Associations of Australia was read. It asked for the selection of three members belonging to the National Association to represent an Australian team for Blaisy this year, and to provide two emergencies. It was pointed out that a team would be selected by an executive committee from the names submitted by the respective State Associations on a proportionate basis, as follows:—New South Wales 3, Victoria 2, Queensland 2, Western Australia 1, Tasmania 1, and South Australia 1.

Mr. Mills suggested that the men should be chosen by competition, that the first two men should go, and that three men be chosen by the Council.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

THE FAILURE OF TARIFFS.

BRITISH TRADE IMPROVING.

LONDON, Jan. 3. Mr. Churchill, President of the Board of Trade, in the course of a letter, writes that the lesson both from Germany and America is that tariffs, however high, are unable to prevent severe widespread and chronic unemployment among the industrial population.

Mr. Churchill adds, "As far as Great Britain is concerned, trade and employment are now improving so quickly that the present pinch is nearly over. We must make the best guarantee that this will be done will be a strong Liberal and progressive majority in the next Parliament."

THE EVASION OF THE LORDS.

SHIRKING PAYMENT.

THE COLONIES ASHAMED.

SPEECH BY MR. LLOYD-GEORGE.

Mr. Lloyd-George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, addressed 6000 people at Reading on Saturday night. He said that colonials were watching the Budget with great interest, and were expressing their opinions very freely, and all were thoroughly ashamed of the Lords for the way in which they were declining to face their responsibility and pay up like men.

Mr. Lloyd-George said he thought that the tariff reformers were rather glad that our overseas kinsmen were not here to participate in the election. He concluded by hoping that 1910 would be remembered as the year in which the people won complete self-government, and shattered feudal claims and threw off feudal burdens.

REFORM OF THE LORDS.

PREFERENCES OF MINISTERS.

Several Ministers in their speeches have hinted at a preference for reform of the House of Lords from within. Meanwhile they will concentrate their attacks on the veto exercised by that House.

THE CONSERVATIVE POLICY.

A SELECT HOUSE.

Mr. A. Lyttelton (Conservative), in the course of an address to his constituents of St. George's, Hanover-square, says that the policy of the Government is to entomb the House of Lords in a mausoleum with an impressive exterior, and to decide the nation into the belief that a second Chamber could under such conditions play a worthy and effective part. The vast majority of Unionists favour diminishing numbers of the House of Lords, and making members more representative and more select.

Liberal policy in fiscal matters, the address continues, is to stereotype the status quo, namely, protection for everyone, except the British manufacturer.

MR. JOHN BURNS'S CANDIDATURE.

A STRENUOUS FIGHT.

Mr. John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, is making an unprecedentedly strenuous fight. He declares that he intends to visit every house in the Battersea constituency before polling day.

ASSAULT ON SUFFRAGISTS.

A MAN FORGETS HIMSELF.

Two women suffragists were being dragged from underneath the platform at Mr. Lloyd-George's meeting at Reading on Saturday, when a man in the front row on the platform leaped over and struck one of the women two savage blows on the head.

TRADE-UNION LEGISLATION.

AMENDMENT WANTED.

Trade union and labour organizations in a circular urge that all candidates should be asked whether they will support an amendment of the Trade Union Act, to enable the unions to continue their political activities.

THE SUFFRAGIST MISUSE.

A suffragist by throwing some acid damaged a number of canvassing cards in Mr. John Burns's committee room, and the acid also injured a clerk on a hand and an eye.

The woman after throwing the acid rushed out of the room and escaped on a bicycle.

CANALS ON MARS.

NEW DISCOVERIES BY PROFESSOR LOWELL.

Professor Percival Lowell declares that two canals, new to us, and new Mars have been discovered by observations of the Flagstaff Observatory, Arizona, at the last opposition of the planet.

Professor Lowell adds that the canals are strikingly evident eastwards of Yertis, and denote the presence of animate will.

The observations which a party of astronomers from the Lick Observatory recently took on the summit of Mount Whitney, U.S.A., show that there is no water vapour or appreciable quantity in the atmosphere of Mars. This is contrary to the findings of Professor Percival Lowell, who announced two years ago the discovery of large quantities of water vapour on Mars.

Professor Campbell, from Lick Observatory, says that the spectra of both Mars and the Moon were photographed at the same altitude above the horizon, and under similar conditions of the earth's atmosphere. The vapour bands in the Martian spectra were found to be stronger than those in the Lunar, and hence Professor Campbell concludes that the quantity of water vapour is as small in Mars as in the Moon. Whether life can exist on the planet under such circumstances he leaves biologists to decide.

Mr. Maunders, a few days ago, declared that observations with a Greenwich telescope had proved the canalisation of Mars to be an optical illusion.

TERRIBLE RAILWAY COLLISION.

EXPRESS AND GOODS TRAIN.

LONDON, Jan. 2. Mr. Spencer Trask, a New York banker, was killed in a railway collision at Croton, New York.

Mr. Trask was in the mail train, which was standing at the station, when a fast goods train following ploughed through the sleeping compartment.

LABOUR'S DISCONTENT.

ENGLISH COLLIERIES IDLE.

FIFTEEN THOUSAND MINERS OUT.

LONDON, Dec. 3. The eight hours' system in Northumberland collieries has evolved some dissatisfaction in regard to the shift system. Ten thousand miners are idle in Northumberland, and 5000 in Durham.

FIGHTING THE STEEL TRUST.

OVER FREE CONTRACT.

The American Federation of Labour appeals to 1,500,000 members to subscribe to a fund to fight the Steel Trust. The federation stigmatises the Trust as a violator of laws. The fight is the outcome of the open-shop policy of the Trust.

GIGANTIC TRUSTS.

SECURING NITRATE OUTPUT.

THE ROCKEFELLER GROUP.

LONDON, Jan. 2. The New York correspondent of the "Daily Express" states that advice has been received from Valparaiso showing that Mr. Rockefeller is associated with a syndicate of British capitalists and the Deutsche Bank with a view of securing control of the nitrate output of the world. The capital of the new trust is said to be \$50,000,000.

The "Daily Mail" says that the Rockefeller group of syndicates has acquired control of the Carnegie and steel trust besides the Nineteenth and Twelfth Ward Bank.

LUDWIG MOND'S REQUESTS.

TO SCIENCE AND ART.

LONDON, Jan. 3. The late Dr. Ludwig Mond, the eminent chemist, of the firm of Brunner, Mond, and Co., bequeathed, subject to the life interest of his wife, £50,000 to the Royal Society of London for the endowment for research in natural science, £50,000 to the University of Heidelberg for similar objects.

Dr. Mond also bequeathed to the National Gallery, subject to his wife's life interest, and to certain conditions, an endowment of £20,000 to provide pensions or occasional assistance to the aged and disabled workers of Brunner, Mond, and Co., £20,000 to charities of his native town, Cassel, Germany.

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The Crucifixion, which was in the Dudley collection, was the most important work of Raphael's youth. It was painted at the age of 17.

THE NAVAL OUTLOOK.

MR. BLATCHFORD'S ARTICLES.

LONDON, Jan. 2. The International Arbitration League in a letter describes Mr. Blatchford, the writer of the articles on "Britain's Unpreparedness," as a "scaremonger, and mere pawn in the Opposition party's game."

RAILWAY SOCIETY'S SECRETARY.

MR. BELL RESIGNS.

LONDON, Jan. 3. Mr. Richard Bell, M.P. (Labour) for Derby, has resigned general secretaryship of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants.

GAMBLING AT MONTE CARLO.

LOSS OF WINNINGS.

LONDON, Jan. 2. Mr. Cressier, a French Canadian at Monte Carlo, who early last week won £22,200 at the roulette table, and nearly lost the whole amount next day, but recovered the same, has now lost the whole of his winnings.

SOCIALISTS IN FRANCE.

M. CLEMENCEAU RECONCILED.

APRIL GUN-RUNNING.

DISPERSED BY NAVAL BRIGADE.

CANALS ON MARS.

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TYPHOID AT MONTREAL.

HOSPITALS OVERCROWDED.

THE COTTON MARKET.

INTERNATIONAL CRICKET.

ENGLAND v SOUTH AFRICA.

WHEAT SHIPMENTS.

DROWNED IN A WATERHOLE.

CROWN LAW OFFICIAL FOR DEFENCE.

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WHEAT SHIPMENTS.

SHIPPING DISASTERS.

COLLISION OFF IRISH COAST.

STEAMER SINKS IN THREE MINUTES.

AUSTRALIAN LINER DAMAGED.

LONDON, Jan. 3.

The Arcadian sank in three minutes. Of her crew of 52, 12 persons perished. They went back for their money, and went down with the ship. The remainder were saved by boarding the Ayraire, which had received a crashing blow forward, and had commenced to fill.

The Ayraire was towed with 200 passengers aboard, and safely beached in the harbour of refuge at Holyhead, Anglesey. There was no panic aboard the Ayraire, whose No. 1 hold was flooded.

The Arcadian, which was formerly known as the Wharfedale and Alangate, and still more recently as the Nerano, was a steel steamship of 1800 tons gross, and was built in 1881 by Messrs. Short, Brown, and Co., Ltd., Glasgow. She was owned by the Ellerman Line, Ltd., and was chartered to the P&O.

The ship was carrying 200 passengers and 1000 tons of cargo. She was bound for Liverpool, and was en route from London.

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TRAGEDY AT TAMWORTH.

MAN BUTCHERS HIS WIFE.

OUTS HIS OWN THROAT.

TAMWORTH, Monday. A terrible tragedy occurred this afternoon at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. Goodworth, Murray-street, on the outskirts of the town. A woman named Annie Power, sister of Goodworth's, was cut her throat. Power then hacked his own throat about, and was taken to the hospital in a dying condition.

Mrs. Goodworth was apparently the only person who witnessed the tragedy, but some children saw stages of it. It appeared that Power was an employee at the freezing works, Goodworth's, but not on the best terms. He left her on Christmas Day without any money of support, and she had to go to work at the freezing works.

Power was a stranger. She brought her two children with her, their names being Reginald, aged 10, and Florence, aged 8. On Saturday night Power turned up at Mrs. Goodworth's place, where Mrs. Power had taken up her quarters. Power wanted her to go back with him, but she said, "I've got my own life to live, and you won't stop me."

Power replied, "I've got my own life to live, and you won't stop me." Power then took her two children, and she took them to her home. Power then took her two children, and she took them to her home.

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COLLISION WITH A WHARF.

PAILLIGHT STRIKES POINT MACQUARIE JETTY.

PORTION OF BUILDING COLLAPSED.

A scene of wild excitement was witnessed early yesterday afternoon at the piling jetty at Point Macquarie, and numbers of men, women, and children who had been occupying the jetty in the waiting-rooms, rushed madly into the street, leaving bags, parcels, hampers, and other belongings behind them. They had been enjoying the delightful harbour scenery, and a quiet stroll after afternoon tea, when suddenly there was a terrific crash, accompanied by the noise of breaking timbers. The jetty vibrated from end to end, and scores of bottles, cans, and other articles were hurled into the air. The jetty was a wooden structure, and it was in the centre of the big piling area away from the wharf, and on reaching the jetty the men and women were unable to get away, and many were naturally alarmed. The first opinion formed by some was that a submarine earthquake had taken place, but it was soon discovered that the jetty was struck by a portion of the building which had collapsed.

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